

## 2023 Selinsgrove Borough Consumer Confidence Report

Copies available upon request at the Borough Office.

PWSID #4550005  
1 North High Street  
Selinsgrove, PA 17870  
570-374-2311, fax 570-374-8902  
Website: [www.selinsgrove.org](http://www.selinsgrove.org)

The Borough of Selinsgrove provides safe and aesthetically pleasing drinking water to its residents as well as many businesses and visitors. The Borough's water supply comes from deep water-bearing layers of rock called aquifers. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. These include: viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from stormwater run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming. Water is removed from the aquifers by wells, is treated and stored in a fully-enclosed reservoir and standpipe.

Hardness:  
12 to 18  
grains per gallon



### CHECKING FOR LEAKS THIS SPRING

Just as we change the batteries in our smoke detectors and move our clocks ahead, we should also get in the habit of checking for leaks every spring. Check hose bibs, garden hoses, and all water pipes that were exposed to the elements. Begin checking for leaks by visually inspecting all exposed pipes and fixtures for dampness. If you have a soft, wet spot on your lawn during a dry period or hear the sound of running water, you may have a leak in the service line to your house. To confirm if the water might be coming from your service line, close the main shut-off valve inside your house. If the sound of running water continues, the outside service line could be leaking.

If you have a pool, shut the auto leveler off for a few days and mark the water level. If the level drops significantly in a day or two, there's a good chance there's a leak in your pool's plumbing system.

Inside your home, check your water meter before bed and when you get up—before anyone runs the water. If the meter has moved, there's likely a leak somewhere in the house. To check for leaks in your toilets, place a drop or two of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.

### Information about Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Selinsgrove Borough is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead> or 800-426-4791.

### Drought Emergencies

In the event of any drought emergency, several measures will be taken to alleviate water demand. Each stage will be followed until an adequate balance of supply and demand has been satisfied.

#### **Drought Phases:**

Drought Watch: Voluntary reduction of water use by 5%.

Drought Warning: Voluntary reduction of water use by 10%.

Drought Emergency: Mandatory water restrictions and implementation of water rationing.

#### **Water Rationing Stages:**

Stage 1—Water rationing and emergency prohibitions will be published.

Stage 2— 25% reduction by all water users.

Stage 3—Temporary service interruptions.

Stage 4—Additional service interruptions and use of water from outside sources.

A complete listing of non-essential water uses, water restrictions for residential customers, water restrictions for non-residential customers and enforcement and penalties are available for inspection at the Borough Office.

### WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

#### In The Bathroom

\*Install low consumption (1.6 gal/flush) toilets. This can save up to 14,000 gallons of water per year.

\*Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving.

\*Install a low-flow showerhead.

\*Take showers instead of baths.

#### In The Kitchen And Laundry Room

\*Run only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machines.

\*Install a low-flow aerator on all faucets.

\*Do not pre-rinse dishes before loading in the dishwasher.

\*Refrigerate a bottle of drinking water instead of letting the faucet flow until the water is cold enough to drink.

\*Use the proper load-size selection on the washing machine.

\*Instead of running water over fruits and vegetables to clean them, fill a bowl of water and use a brush.

#### Lawn, Garden And Outdoors

\*Water during the morning or in the evening to prevent evaporation during the heat of the day.

\*Avoid watering the lawn on windy days.

\*Plant drought-resistant plants.

\*Cover swimming pools to slow down the evaporation of water. This can reduce water loss by 30%

\*Repair any swimming pool leaks.

### **URGENT: All Properties Lead & Copper Plumbing Survey**

We offer thanks to those who have already responded but we need 100% compliance. **The PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is requiring municipal governments and residents to estimate risk of lead exposure through the water service lines.** Since the Borough and residents are required to comply, **non-compliance could lead to fees and termination of water service.** **All lines not surveyed will be deemed "lead service lines" by DEP** which would be inaccurate. To help in the effort, Borough staff mailed out a Lead and Copper Plumbing Survey in March 2023. We had a summer helper in 2023 go door to door to assist residents in completing this 5-minute task. We continue to help in this matter.

**If your residence has not completed the survey by May 1st (to include the mandatory picture of the meter with the lines in and out), then the Borough may need to discontinue water service and assess the \$100.00 disconnection/reconnection fee to get the task completed. If you would like to complete the survey online, please visit the Borough website at <https://selinsgrove.org/municipal-services/public-water/> and click the link to the Lead & Copper Water Line Survey 2023. If you want help at no cost to you, please call the Borough Office at 570-374-2311. If you are a tenant and your landlord wishes for you to aid in the completion of this task, please give us a call.**

### Safe Drinking Water Act

To comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act amendments, the Borough of Selinsgrove will annually issue a report on monitoring performed on its drinking water. The purpose of this report is to advance consumer's understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for 2021. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

#### **Definitions:**

**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL)** - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

**ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**pCi/L** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

#### **Chemical Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCL		Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
	in CCR Units	MCLG						
Total Trihalomethane	80	N/A	2.52	**a	ppb	2023	N	Byproduct of disinfection
Barium (IOC) 101	2	N/A	0.093	0.093 to 0.094	ppm	2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (IOC) 102	2	N/A	0.094	0.093 to 0.094	ppm	2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (IOC) 103	2	N/A	0.038	0.093 to 0.094	ppm	2021	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (IOC) 101	2	N/A	0.4	0.394 to 0.535	ppm	2021	N	Additive for oral hygiene.
Fluoride (IOC) 102	2	N/A	0.394	0.394 to 0.535	ppm	2021	N	Additive for oral hygiene.
Fluoride (IOC) 103	2	N/A	0.535	0.394 to 0.535	ppm	2021	N	Additive for oral hygiene.

#### **ENTRY POINT (EP) DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL**

Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant		Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections (mg/L)	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
	Residual	EP						
Chlorine-EP 101	0.4	101	0.603	0.603 to 1.2	ppm	2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine-EP 102	0.4	102	0.4	0.4 to 1.14	ppm	2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine-EP 103	0.4	103	0.46	0.46 to 1.17	ppm	2023	N	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Month of Highest Avg. Result</b>		<b>Highest Avg. Result</b>	<b>MRDL</b>	<b>Lowest Avg. Result</b>	<b>Units</b>			
APR 2023		0.88	4.0	0.61	ppm			

#### **MICROBIAL**

Contaminant	MCL	MCLB	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	More than 1 positive monthly sample	0	0	2022 6 samples taken monthly	N	Naturally present in the environment

Bacteria Sample: The Borough received two positive samples on 9/14/22 which triggered a Level 2 Assessment because it was within one year of our last Level 1 Assessment. We implemented the corrective assessment plan and resampled. All samples came back negative for bacteria. (No Violation)

#### **LEAD AND COPPER**

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)		90th Percentile Value	# of Sites Above AL or Total Sites	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
	(AL)	MCLG						
Lead	0.015	0	0.0	0 out of 20	ppb	2022	N	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.15	0 out of 20	ppm	2022	N	Corrosion of household plumbing

#### **NITRATE**

Contaminant	MCL		Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
	in CCR Units	MCLG						
EP 101	10	10	2	**a	ppm	2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer
EP 102	10	10	0.874	**a	ppm	2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer
EP 103	10	10	4.2825	4.02—4.8	ppm	2023	N	Runoff from fertilizer